इसके सभी वासस्थलों के संरक्षण और विकास के लिए उपायों को सुदृढ़ बनाने के लिए प्रसम राज्य सरकार को सहायता देती है ।

4. हथियारों, वाहनों, नावों और बेतार सेटों से सुसज्जित सुरक्षा कर्मचारियों की नियुक्ति करके उद्यानों में चोरी-छिपे शिकार-रोधी उपाय तेज किए गए हैं ।

5. दिन और रात दोनों वक्त चोरी-छिपे शिकार-रोधी कर्मचारियों की गश्त बढ़ा दी गई है ।

6. चोरी-छिपे शिकार करने वालों की गतिविधियों के बारे में सूचना प्राप्त करने के लिए पुरस्कार और प्रोत्साहन की एक प्रणाली शुरू की गई है ।

7. बाढ़ के समय जब गैंडे ऊंचे स्थानों पर एकत्र हो जाते हैं, उस समय उनका शिकार आसानी से किया जा सकता है, ऐसे समय में गैंडों की सुरक्षा के लिए विशेष गश्त लगाई जानी है ।

Sandal wood cutting in Karnataka and Tamilnadu

1283. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government are taking to book the culprits in the Sandal wood cutting case in the States of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu: and

(b) what is the total amount of loss of sandal wood to Government in those States as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Information from the Government of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Global Water Quality

1284. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the Global Water Quality Monitoring Project the Indian river waters are unfit for drinking and bathing because of pollution;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which Government propose to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) According to the data collected from 480 stations under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme which is a part of the Global Environment Monitoring System, the water quality in some stretches of 22 rivers is below the standard desired for drinking and bathing. The causes of pollution in these rivers are discharge of untreated or partially treated wastewater from municipalities, industries and from a number of non-point sources.

(c) The various strategies adopted to control river pollution include:

(i) Studies of 14 major river basins in the country have been taken up to inventerise major sources of pollution and determine water quality status.

(ii) Standards for river quality has been prescribed;

(iii) Industries and municipalities have been directed to treat their effluents to the precribed standards within a time-frame;

(iv) Compliance of standards by industries is regularly monitored by the State Pollution Control Boards and by the Central Pollution Control Board through Zonal Task Forces.

(v) Prosecutions are launched against defaulting units;